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NEW SOUTH WALES  
DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS

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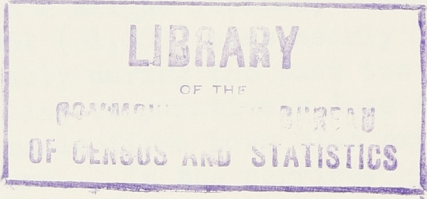
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PART 1 : EMPLOYMENT - Non-Rural IndustriesEMPLOYMENT = New South Wales

Non-rural employment in New South Wales continues to rise at an average rate of 2,000 to 3,000 a month. The total at the end of August 1951, 1,051,300 was 28,900 more than a year earlier. The increase in 1951 was particularly marked in female employment, and it appears that favourable conditions now offered are attracting more women into jobs. Comparing July 1939 with August 1951 male employment has risen by 228,000 or 43% and female employment by 124,600 or 74%. During this period permanent rural employment fell by about 9,000 persons and there was a drop in the vicinity of 30,000 in the number of women employed as domestics in private households. On the other hand army enlistments (excluding National Service training) from New South Wales (17,000 in August 1951) were 11,000 higher than at outbreak of war. Taking these movements together, the total work force increased by approx. 325,000 or 36% in the 12 years while the State population increased by about 21%.

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Immigration has become the main source of new labour tapered off during the past year. The balance of net permanent migration into Australia was 83,000 in January-June 1950, 71,000 in July-December and 62,000 in January-June 1951. The number of displaced persons working on Government contract in New South Wales fell from a peak of 28,300 (22,200 men and 6,100 women) in June 1951 to 25,900 in August.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS = NEW SOUTH WALES = Excl. Rural Workers and Female Domestics in Private Households - in thousands.

	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
					Rise over Year	
1939-July	529.9	168.0	697.9			
1946-August	632.6	243.2	875.8	+90.6	- 4.9	+85.7
1947- "	679.4	255.4	934.8	+46.8	+12.2	+59.0
1948- "	703.8	263.0	966.8	+24.4	+ 7.6	+32.0
1949-Sept.	715.9	270.0	985.9	+12.1	+ 7.0	+19.1
1950-August	742.8	279.6	1022.4	+26.9	+ 9.6	+36.5
1951- "	758.7	292.6	1051.3	+15.9	+13.0	+28.9

The principal expansion in recent years has been in factory employment which is now 77% greater than before the war. Building employment recovered only slowly from the low wartime level; between August 1950 and 1951 it rose by 5,700 (8%), approximately half the increase being on construction works. The 1951 figure was 30% above 1939. The largest industry in the mining group is coal mining where employment has advanced from 16,800 in July 1939 and 18,800 in August 1948 to 19,800 in 1951; this includes about 1,200 men employed in open cuts. The rapid post-war rise in the transport group came to a halt early this year. Since then employment in road transport has been steady and in the rail-air group has shown a slight decline. Communication staffs continue to rise, and in August 1951 (31,300) were nearly 150% above 1939. Retail staffs have risen considerably during the past two years but the increase (21%) of the 1939 figure remains comparatively less than that of other groups. Banks, insurance and wholesale firms have also expanded their staffs appreciably during the past two years. In the services group health and education employment continues to rise.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAIN INDUSTRIES - N.S.W. - in Thousands

	Factor- ies	Building & Con- struction	Mining & Quarrying	Transport & Communi- cation	Retail Trade	Commerce & Finance	Professl & Personal Services	Total Wage & Salary Earners
1939-July	218.1	58.4	24.8	81.6	80.0	67.5	105.7	697.9
1945-July	302.3	34.9	24.9	100.5	67.7	56.7	115.4	787.9
1948-Aug.	357.1	62.7	28.2	121.2	92.4	83.6	144.0	966.8
1950-Aug.	375.4	70.4	28.8	129.8	94.3	93.3	150.2	1022.4
1951-June	384.4	74.6	29.9	130.2	96.9	99.6	151.1	1049.2
-July	384.8	75.7	29.9	129.7	96.8	99.2	150.5	1049.6
-Aug.	385.4	76.1	29.9	129.4	96.9	100.0	150.9	1051.3
<u>PERCENTAGE INCREASES.</u>								
Aug. '48-Aug. '50	5%	12%	2%	7%	2%	12%	7%	6%
Aug. '50-Aug. '51	3%	8%	4%	-	3%	7%	1%	3%
July '39-Aug. '51	77%	30%	21%	59%	21%	48%	43%	51%

WAGES = New South Wales

Basic Wage increases (adult males, Sydney) greatly accelerated in 1951. Between November 1947 and 1948, and between 1948 and 1949 the rate rose by 10/-, in 1949-50 it rose by 14/- to which was added the special increase of 19/- in December, 1950; since then further rises have totalled £2/2/- (or 25%) to £10/7/- in November 1951. Increases in the nominal wage rates for adult males, New South Wales, amounted to 9% between September quarters 1948-49 and 1949-50 but to 30% in 1950-51. Compared with 1939 both the basic wage and nominal wage rates have advanced by approx. 150%.

<u>BASIC WAGE, Adult Males, Sydney</u>			<u>NOMINAL WAGES, Adult Males, N.S.W.</u>		
<u>Weekly Rate</u>	<u>Increase on Year</u>		<u>I n d e x</u>	<u>Weekly Rate</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>As f r o m N o v e m b e r</u>			<u>1937/9=1000</u>		<u>on Year</u>
			<u>S e p t e m b e r</u>		<u>Quarter</u>
1946x	£5.1.0 (£5.8.0)	20% (9%)	1309	£6.14.0	2%
1947	£5.12.0	4%	1455	£6.18.0	11%
1948	£6. 2.0	9%	1644	£7.15.6	13%
1949	£6.12.0	8%	1788	£8. 9.0	9%
1950x	£7. 6.0 (£8.5.0)	11% (25%)	1951	£9. 4.6	9%
1951	£10.7.0	25%	2540p	£12.0.0p	30%p
1939-1951		152%			151%

x Special increases of 7/- in Dec. 1946 and 19/- in Dec. 1950, shown in brackets.  
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Over the four years ended June 1951 the Australian wage rate series rose by 75%, as against increases of 19% and 40% in comparable series in the United Kingdom and New Zealand and 33% in average earnings in United States factories.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales

Dispute losses in New South Wales in September, 1951, were the smallest in the current year. Apart from coal mines, the principal disputes occurred on the waterfront, Government buses and in the Small Arms Factory.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES = NEW SOUTH WALES = Thousand Man Days Lost,

	<u>January to September</u>			<u>Month of September</u>		
	<u>1948</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Coal Mines	318	244	326	37	31	26
Metaliferous Mines	3	15	20	-	-	-
Other Employment	173	153	205	40	33	0
T o t a l	494	412	561	77	64	35

COAL PRODUCTION - New South Wales

New South Wales coal production in October, 1951 was maintained at an average of over 300,000 tons a week, and the total for the 44 weeks ended 3rd November, reached 11.25 m. tons, or 4½% more than for the corresponding period of the record year of 1950. If the present rate of output is maintained the annual total will be nearly 13½m. tons. Increased production in 1951 came mainly from open-cuts which contributed one sixth of the total as compared with one eighth in 1950 and one tenth in 1948 (44 weeks).

PRODUCTION OF COAL - New South Wales - in thousand tons

	<u>Year ended December</u>			<u>44 weeks ended</u>			
	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>31/10/1947</u>	<u>6/11/1948</u>	<u>4/11/1950</u>	<u>3/11/1951</u>
Underground ...	10,467	9,388	11,197	10,355	8,699	9,440	9,428
Open-cut ...	1,254	1,348	1,601		1,058	1,332	1,818
TOTAL: ...	11,721	10,736	12,798	10,355	9,757	10,772	11,246

GAS & ELECTRICITY - New South Wales and Sydney.

Gas and electricity production in New South Wales in September, 1951, shows the usual seasonal decline, but were still 8% and 5% respectively above September, 1950. The seasonally adjusted index of gas and electricity consumption in Sydney, based on a pre-war average of 100, was 207 in July and August and 205 in September 1951, as compared with 195 in September 1950 and 189 in 1949. In spite of power rationing, electricity consumption in the Sydney area was at record levels during the winter.

	<u>PRODUCTION - New South Wales</u>		<u>CONSUMPTION - Sydney Index</u>
	<u>Gas</u> mill.cub.ft	<u>Electricity</u> mill.KWh.	(Seas.Adj.) <u>Gas &amp; Electricity</u> 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100
1938-39 Year	10,896	1,948	104
1948-49 Year	18,151	3,718	179
1950-51 Year	19,674	4,259	195
1948 - September	1,586	317	185
1950 - "	1,659	355	195
1951 - July	2,059	406	207
- August	1,986	408	207
- September	1,786	371	205

IRON AND STEEL - New South Wales

Iron and Steel production in September 1951 was a little below the August peak. The aggregate for the nine months ended September, 1951, 850,000 tons of pig iron and 1.04 mill. tons of steel, were near the 1950 figure. Towards the end of October 1951, production was halted for about two weeks because of an industrial dispute.

	<u>Month of 1951 -</u>			<u>Nine Months ended September</u>		
	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Pig Iron N.S.W.	93	109	103	731	839	851
Pig Iron, Whyalla.S.A.	13	14	17	152	105	99
Ingot Steel, N.S.W.	111	138	132	923	1,045	1,041

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS

Railway passenger traffic in September quarter 1951 was lighter than in 1950, but there were some increases in goods traffic. The effect of the rate increases of October 1950, is reflected in the rise in gross earnings from £10.76m. in September quarter 1950, to £13.57m. in 1951, but working expenses also rose by nearly a third, leaving a net deficiency of £570,000 for the 1951 quarter, as compared with a deficiency of £340,000 in 1950, and a working surplus of £1m. to £2m. in the period of 1946, 1947 and 1948.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

	<u>Three Months ended September</u>					<u>Month of September</u>	
	<u>Passenger Journeys</u>	<u>Goods(excl) Livestock</u>	<u>Gross Earnings</u>	<u>Working Expenses</u>	<u>Net (a) Earnings</u>	<u>Passenger Journeys</u>	<u>Goods (excl) Livestock</u>
	Millions	Mill.tons	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	Millions	Mill.tons
1938	46.9	3.48	4.70	3.55	1.15	15.5	0.88
1948	64.6	4.62	9.62	8.16	1.46	21.1	1.57
1950	67.2	4.50	10.76	11.10	-0.34	22.4	1.53
1951	66.5	4.79	13.57	14.14	-0.57	21.9	1.56

(a) Excess of gross earnings over working expenses; excluding Government contribution of £800,000 for developmental lines.

The final railway accounts for the year 1950-51 show that the surplus on working account dropped from £5m. to £7m. in earlier post-war years to £1½m. The Auditor-General's Report mentions the following as affecting the result: tariff increases of October 1950 did not yield the full expected increase in revenue; shortages of rolling stock and train crews caused some restrictions on goods traffic and a rise of £10m. in working expenses over the year greatly exceeded the budget figure. Including capital charges the deficit for the year was £6.42m. Since the war only two years, 1945-46 and 1947-48 yielded a net surplus. Budget proposals now before Parliament provide for £20m. more revenue from freight and passenger rate increases, and that is expected to cover fully the anticipated working expenditure and capital charges.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS - £mill.

Year ended June	Working Account Earnings(1)	Expenses	Surplus	Capital Charges	Net Result
1939	19.95	14.13	5.82	6.99	- 1.17
1946	32.11	24.68	7.43	7.28	+ .15
1947	31.19	25.40	5.79	7.34	- 1.55
1948	37.78	30.51	7.27	7.16	+ .11
1949	40.46	35.35	5.11	7.02	- 1.91
1950	43.92	38.66	5.26	7.75	- 2.49
1951	50.25	48.70	1.55	7.96	- 6.42
1952(2)	70.49	61.79	8.70	8.67	+ .03

(1) Incl. Govt. Contribution of £800,000 and, in 1949-50 special grant of £3mill.

(2) Budget proposals, not yet enacted.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales

New car registrations in New South Wales receded from a monthly average of 4,200 in 1950 to 3,500 in the first nine months of 1951, but new registrations of commercial vehicles continue to increase. The number of cars on the State register rose by 25,590 to 316,583 during the 12 months ended September 1951. Comparing June 1939 with September 1951, the totals on the register rose as follows: cars 48%, public passenger vehicles 68%, lorries, etc. 144%.

REGISTRATIONS OF MOTOR VEHICLES - New South Wales

	New Vehicles Registered			Civilian Vehicles on Register		
	Cars	Lorries Utilities and Vans	Cars	Buses, Taxis and Hire Cars	Lorries Utilities & Vans	Total of Foregoing
	Monthly Average or Month			As at End of Period		
Av. 1937-1939	1,764	763	213,331	4,708	76,726	294,765
1950 - Sept.	4,442	2,764	280,993	7,364	165,164	453,521
1951 - July.	3,639	2,400	310,827	7,792	183,215	501,834
- August	3,808	2,441	313,730	7,879	185,035	506,644
- Sept.	3,737	1,937	316,583	7,893	186,374	510,850
Jan.-Sept. 1949	18,859	9,372				
1950	37,930	18,859				
1951	31,619	20,389				

Two thirds of the cars registered in 1950-51 were British-made and 17% (20% in Sept. quarter) Australian Holdens. Imports from continental Europe are increasing and accounted for 9% of the total in September quarter. Australian Holden utilities now make up about 6% of total new commercial vehicles.

NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS - N.S.W. - By Country of Origin

	MOTOR CARS				LORRIES, UTILITIES, & VANS		
	Australia	United Kingdom	America	Other	United Kingdom	America	Other
		Proportion per cent				Proportion per cent	
1938-39	.	39%	60%	1%	25%	74%	1%
1949-50	12%	77%	8%	3%	72%	27%	1%
1950-51	17%	67%	10%	6%	76%	22%	2%
Sept. Qtr. 1951	20%	61%	10%	9%	70%	24%	6%

## PART 11 : FINANCE AND TRADE

PRINCIPAL TRADING BANKS = Australia

Ordinarily current bank deposits show an upward trend throughout the export season to a peak in April with a subsequent fall (about 5% in recent years) to August, when the trend is reversed again. The fall in the April-August period of 1951 was greater than usual, amounting to 10% and a further fall in September brought it to 11% (£120 m. for the five months). Simultaneously, advances in 1951 rose by £66m. between April and September as compared with £34m. in 1950. Among the factors which may have caused the increased demand on banking funds in the current year are the following: the rise in Commonwealth tax collections in the five months from £260m. in 1950 to £391m., involving a transfer of funds from the trading banks to the Government account with the Commonwealth Bank and perhaps not wholly offset by the back-flow of Government expenditure into the trading banks; and the rise in the import surplus for the period from £23m. in 1950 to £84m. in 1951, with a consequent greater outflow of funds from Australia.

The demand on the banks in the form of drawings on deposits and greater advances in the five months ended September 1951 totalled £186m. This was met partly by short-term loans from the Central Bank, £14m., releases from Special Accounts, £38m., and reductions in cash and security holdings, £49m. Most of the balance seems to have come from a net reduction in the trading banks credit balances held overseas. This item is not shown separately in the bank returns which refer to assets and liabilities in Australia, excluding capital funds. Taking the latter as steady at approx. £73m. the balance of assets and liabilities in Australia shows that the banks' net assets overseas which had been around £10m. in the early post-war years began to rise in 1949 and reached a peak of approx. £117m. in April 1951 with a reduction to approx. £25m. in September. The banks may have sold foreign exchange either to the Central Bank or direct to customers for import commitments.

PRINCIPAL TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia

	Deposits at Credit of Customers (a)	Balances due to Other Banks	Advances to Custom- ers (a)	Public Secur- ities	Special A/c with C/wealth Bank	Treas- ury Bills	Cash Items	Ratios to Deposits.	
								Advan- ces	Special A/c.
	£ million	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	%	%
1939-Sept.	315	1	296	22	-	17	33	94	-
1949-Sept.	802	26	394	77	308	17	50	49	38
1950-April	1018	41	415	95	457	29	54	41	45
Aug.	983	45	444	97	441	16	52	45	45
Sept.	1002	51	449	93	448	19	60	45	45
1951-April	1297	48	502	88	557	57	69	39	43
-July	1204	62	528	91	538	25	55	44	45
-Aug.	1191	62	542	82	523	35	56	46	44
-Sept.	1177	62	568	76	519	34	55	48	44

(a) Following technical adjustments in bank returns, deposits and advances were reduced by £9.mill. as from January, 1949, and a further £3 mill. in July, 1949.

SAVINGS BANK = New South Wales.

New savings deposits and withdrawals in New South Wales in September 1951 (£20.8m. and £19.3m.) were below the peak of recent months. The net increase in savings deposits for the September quarter was £4.4m. in 1951, as against £800,000 in 1950 and £1.6m. in 1949. Total deposits at the end of September, 1951, were £288.9m. or £29.2m. more than a year earlier.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (£million)

	New South Wales				Total Deposits End of Period.	
	Deposits Lodged	Withdrawals Made	Net Increase or Decrease(-)	Interest Added	N.S.W.	Australia
1938-39 July-June	66.6	67.2	(-) 0.6	1.6	87.5	245.6
1949-50 July-June	201.5	191.3	10.2	4.2	258.9	762.1
1950-51 July-June	253.5	232.3	21.2	4.4	284.5	837.4
1949 Sept. Qtr.	46.6	45.0	1.6		246.1	723.2
1950 "	55.2	54.4	0.8		259.7	766.5
1951 "	66.7	62.3	4.4		288.9	852.4

RETAIL TRADE - (Large Sydney Stores)

After some heavy increases in retail sales (large city stores) in the first half of 1950 the rise in turnover in August was comparatively lighter. The Commonwealth Bank index of retail sales on the base of 1938-39 = 100 reached a peak of 364 in July 1951 and was 360 (prelin.) in August. Comparison with the corresponding periods of 1950 shows a rise of 33% for the first seven months of 1950 and of 14% for August. Sales in household drapery which in August 1950 had been boosted by rumours of rationing were 38% less in August 1951 while increases in the sales value of clothing averaged 14%, in furniture 26% and in hardware 31%. The retail price index ("C" Series) for clothing rose by 26% between September quarter 1950 and 1951. Stock values have increased appreciably in recent months owing to higher prices and perhaps also to slower turnovers. Compared with 1938-39 stock values have now risen about as much as sales values.

RETAIL TRADE - LARGE SYDNEY STORES.

Percentage increase or decrease (-) on corresponding period of previous year.

	1947	1948	1950	1951	1947	1949	1950	1951
	VALUE OF SALES				VALUE OF STOCKS (End of Period)			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March Quarter	15	17	9	31	39	9	4	10
June Quarter	19	6	10	33	38	7	6	22
July	12	(-) 16	31	42	29	9	2	32
August	17	(-) 3	39	14	39	6	1	39
Eight Months	17	6	16	30	36	8	4	21

OVERSEA TRADE = Australia

The value of merchandise exports in September quarter 1951, £145m. was a little higher than in 1950 but import values rose more, leaving an adverse balance for the quarter of £11m., as against £38m. in 1950. Import prices have advanced considerably since last year; the Commonwealth Bank index rose from 315 early in 1950 to 386 in June quarter 1951. The export price index (Commonwealth Statistician) stood at 471 in June 1950, reached a peak of 912 in March 1951 but had receded to 488 (prelin.) in August. These fluctuations are due mainly to the trend in wool prices.

OVERSEA TRADE = Australia = Merchandise Only - F.o.b. Values - £mill.

	Year ended June		September Quarter			
	1950	1951	1938	1949	1950	1951
Exports	611.6	981.3	25.5	109.1	133.6	144.8
Imports	536.1	741.2	22.6	113.0	171.5	255.8
Balance	75.5	239.4	-4.1	-3.9	-37.9	-111.0

REAL ESTATE AND MORTGAGES - New South Wales

The number of real estate transfers in 1951 has remained near the record level of 1950, and their value (as shown in transfer documents) has risen by about a third. The value of registered mortgages has also increased, but not quite as much; in the first ten months of 1951 it was equivalent to 36% of sales, compared with 40% in 1950, over 50% in 1948 and 1949 and about 70% in 1938-39.

REGISTERED REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - New South Wales

	Ten months ended October				1950	1951		
	1948	1949	1950	1951	Oct.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Sales - Number	65,348	75,066	94,362	92,485	8,961	9,894	8,485	9,236
£ mill.	49.15	61.45	136.12	177.60	13.94	20.74	17.06	15.41
Mortgages-£mill	26.33	34.46	54.78	63.67	4.96	7.09	5.49	8.24

(Only mortgages in fixed amounts for fixed periods; other types are not recorded.)

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS

Commonwealth tax reimbursements in the four months ended October 1951 were £12.8m. as against £4m. to £7m. for the same period of recent years. The 1951-52 budget (not yet enacted) provides for £47.9m. under this heading compared with £36.8m. received in 1950-51 and £25.5m. in 1949-50. Receipts from State taxes and services in the four months of 1951 totalled £9.6m. as against £8.2m. in 1950, while governmental expenditure rose from £13.8m. to £17.6m. The deficiency on working account of the railway and tram and bus services in the 1951 period was £2m. compared with £1.1m. in 1950 and a surplus in earlier years. Higher fares and freight rates came into force in November 1951.

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS (£ thousands).

Revenue Item	July to October			Expenditure Item	July to October		
	1949	1950	1951		1949	1950	1951
From Commonwealth (1)	6,844	7,769	13,745	Net Debt Charges	5,070	5,423	5,837
State Taxation	3,537	4,505	5,284	Other ex Debt "			
Other Governmental	3,307	3,719	4,365	Governmental	12,345	13,822	17,608
Railways (2)	12,975	14,003	17,834	Railways	11,338	15,115	19,351
Tram & Bus Services (2)	3,032	3,154	3,362	Tram & Bus Services	2,859	3,151	3,855
Sydney Harbour	518	634	734	Sydney Harbour	308	329	424
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b>30,213</b>	<b>33,784</b>	<b>45,324</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>31,920</b>	<b>37,840</b>	<b>47,075</b>

- (1) Reimbursements of taxes & payments towards interest.  
 (2) Including in 1949 Commonwealth grants towards losses due to coal strike, £3 mill. for railways and £200,000 for trams and buses.

Loan expenditure on works in the four months ended October was £13m. in 1951, as against £8m. in 1950 and 1949.

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE.

The slow downward trend of recent months in share prices was temporarily reversed early in October when industrial shares (Sydney Stock Exchange Index) rose by about 6%; this coincided with the recovery in wool prices. Later in the month share prices eased back to the level of the end of September. The monthly series for manufacturing and distributing and retail shares as well as the series for 75 companies in October were at the lowest point for twelve months.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - Sydney (Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician)

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Public Utilities	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies	34 Active Shares
1939-August	212.6	168.2	156.0	118.2	263.9	174.4	181.9
1946-December	292.4	251.6	197.3	160.7	322.5	229.7	247.2
1950-October	429.1	338.5	156.5	249.8	611.2	312.1	315.4
1951-June	529.8	397.6	167.3	301.6	757.1	366.6	357.0
-August	499.6	377.9	160.6	281.4	788.6	350.1	335.8
-September	475.2	358.5	154.0	260.8	779.6	333.6	318.6
-October	462.2	341.7	157.0	266.0	770.7	326.2	316.4

PART III : RURAL INDUSTRIESTHE SEASON.

Comparatively dry conditions prevailed in the northern and central districts of the State during September, October and early November. Pastures in the North are deteriorating and crops have suffered from lack of rain. Bushfires in November caused damage to grass and forest areas in the North-West. Seasonal conditions in the South were generally favourable. Crops have ripened well and stock <sup>and</sup> pastures are in good condition.

RAINFALL INDEX - NEW SOUTH WALES - "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each Month & Year

	SHEEP DISTRICTS					WHEAT DISTRICTS				COASTAL DAIRYING DISTRICTS			
	N	C	S	W	Total	W	C	S	Total	W	C	S	Total
1949-Year	126	112	110	129	117	126	113	110	113	107	147	129	120
1950-Year	176	212	164	195	184	170	194	160	170	173	188	209	182
1951-June	142	138	127	154	137	140	140	112	123	223	319	382	268
July	34	83	112	40	74	56	97	114	102	9	29	66	21
Aug.	116	142	143	90	129	125	147	124	130	27	62	191	54
Sep.	74	85	146	111	105	79	90	143	121	20	45	309	63
Oct.	37	51	116	53	69	29	61	106	84	51	52	105	58

W O O L

Shearing throughout the State is progressing well. Early reports suggest that the wool yield per sheep is comparatively light this season. Receipts into New South Wales Stores (Sydney, Newcastle and Goulburn) for the September quarter 1951, 372,000 bales, were equal to last year's receipts but considerably less than for this period of earlier years. Good clearances were made at the sales in August and September, and the carry-over at the end of September 1951, as in 1950, was 205,000 bales. While the volume of sales in the 1951 period about equalled that of August/September 1950, the lower prices prevailing caused the value to fall from £26.44m. to £16.33m. The Australian sales total for the September quarter was 422,000 bales for £35.18 mill. in 1951 as against 456,000 bales for £66.60 mill. in 1950.

RECEIVALS, DISPOSALS AND STOCKS OF WOOL  
(N.S.W Stores excl. Albury - Thousand Bales)

	1951			1950	1949
	Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	Total N.S.W	Total N.S.W	Total N.S.W
Carry-over from June	25	2	27	13	79
Receipts in July-Sept	311	61	372	379	469
Total	336	63	399	392	548
Disposals-July-Sept.	173	21	194	187	248
Balance in store at end of September	163	42	205	205	300
Value of sales £mill.	14.74	1.59	16.33	26.44	10.47

Wool prices at Australian sales rose sharply in late September and early October. The average at the Sydney sales of 10th October, was about 50% above the middle of September and slightly in excess of the closing sale of last season. Later in October the demand weakened and prices receded by 10% to 20%. The average for the month was 96d. (full-clip average, preliminary) as compared with 60d. in September and 95d. at the closing sale in June. Last season's peak was an average of 190½d in March 1951. Oversea reports indicate an easing in the demand for wool due to a recession in retail sales in America and Europe and uncertainty about military stockpiling.

Continued

AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - NEW SOUTH WALES - Pence per lb. greasy

Season ended 30th June	d. per lb.	Month(a)	d. per lb.
1939	10.3	1950 October	118.0
1947	23.6	1951 March	190.5
1949	46.8	June (last sale)	95.0
1950	61.8	September	66.0 (prelim)
1951	143.3	October	96.0 (prelim)

(a) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of that month.

DAIRYING

Very dry conditions prevailed on the Far North Coast during the September quarter where pastures remained very poor and some stock losses occurred. The other dairying districts generally enjoyed a favourable spring season with fodder crops and pastures recovering well and stock in good condition. Milk output for all purposes recovered seasonally from 13.1 mill. gall in June 1951 to about 17.7 mill. gall. in September but was then still about 20% below the production level of recent years.

WHOLEMILK PRODUCTION = All uses - New South Wales - 000 gall.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 (prelim)
June	17,738	15,896	16,787	16,146	13,117
July	17,000	15,144	15,635	14,568	13,596
August	16,074	17,306	17,693	16,823	15,117
September	18,686	20,556	22,507	21,864	17,700

Factory butter output rose seasonally from 2.2mill. lbs. in June 1951 to 3.3 mill.lbs. in September. The total for the September quarter was 8.2mill.lbs. in 1951 as against 10 mill. to 12.mill.lbs. for that period of recent years and 16 mill. to 20 mill. lbs. in the immediate pre-war years.

FACTORY BUTTER PRODUCTION - New South Wales - Thousand lbs.

	Year ended June	February	May	June	July	August	September
1939	113,841	10,826	10,456	7,742	6,585	6,355	7,335
1947	60,385	7,384	4,458	3,824	3,004	2,833	4,025
1950	82,469	8,407	4,947	3,309	2,737	3,467	5,120
1951	76,873	8,280	3,149	2,220	2,307	2,672	3,248

No precise calculation of butter supplies available for consumption in this State is possible as records of interstate movements by road and air are not available. To that extent the table below is incomplete. With this reservation it shows that the decline in the State butter output of recent years has been partly compensated during the winter by greater imports (mainly from Victoria and Queensland) and reduced exports. In winter 1951 the local supply deficiency was aggravated by a corresponding fall in Queensland production; exports practically ceased and greater use was made of stocks held in cold storage. The annual rate of consumption per head of population was about 34 lbs. before the war and had dropped to 24 lbs. towards the end of the rationing period; afterwards, in 1950-51, it returned to 30 lbs. Ascertained supplies in September quarter 1951 were about 15% less than in the same period of 1949 and 1950.

BUTTER = SUPPLY & USE = New South Wales = in million lbs.

BUTTER - SUPPLY & DEMAND - NEW SOUTH WALES			September Quarter		
	Y e a r				
	1938-39	1950-51	1949	1950	1951
(1) Production	118.8	81.0	11.5	12.8	8.8
(2) Imports	2.9	23.3	4.5	3.8	2.2
Total	121.7	104.2	16.0	16.6	11.0
(3) Exports	25.7	7.1	2.4	.7	.4
(4) Stock Movement	-3.0	-0.1	+1.2	-.1	+2.9
NET SUPPLY	93.0	97.0	15.8	15.8	13.5

(1) N.S.W Factory & Farm (2) Sydney arrivals by rail from Vic. and Queensland and by sea from all States. (3) Oversea Exports, interstate exports shipped from Sydney and butter used locally for ice cream, etc. (4) Sydney Stores; increase in period shown as - and decrease as +

AGRICULTURE = New South Wales.

The decline in agricultural and dairying activity in the State in 1950-51 is indicated by the fall in the number of holdings used for cultivation and of registered dairies both of which were about 20% below the 1939 figure.

	<u>NUMBER OF HOLDINGS = New South Wales</u>			
	<u>All Rural Holdings</u>	<u>Cultivated Holdings (1 acre or more)</u>	<u>Registered Dairies</u>	<u>Holdings with 50 sheep or more</u>
31st Mar.				
1939	75,365	54,126	20,956	32,452 (1940)
1949	74,303	48,808	17,250	31,544
1950	73,987	48,473	16,965	32,167
1951	73,195	43,845	16,354	32,700

The area under crops has decreased from a record of 7.2m. acres in 1947-48 to 5.7m. acres in 1949-50 and 4.8m. acres in 1950-51. About 70% of this area is harvested for wheat grain, and the wheat area in 1950-51, 3.3m. acres, was the lowest since the war, with a further fall to 2½m. -

3.0m. acres anticipated for the current season. Areas harvested for other cereal crops and for hay and vegetables in 1950-51 were also substantially smaller than in 1949-50 and only a fraction of the peak year 1947-48. There has been a steady expansion in the much less extensive rice and linseed areas.

AREA UNDER CROP = New South Wales - Holdings of 1 acre or more - 000 acres

	<u>Average 10 ys.</u>				
	<u>ended 1941</u>	<u>1947-48</u>	<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1949-50</u>	<u>1950-51</u>
TOTAL AREA	6,140	7,168	5,711	5,670	4,765
Wheat - Grain	4,150	5,043	4,038	4,012	3,328
Harvested for Hay	758	617	376	328	223
Oats	256	609	378	375	332
Maize	119	87	78	73	53
Rice	22	26	33	38	41
Green Fodder & Fed Off	462	488	548	585	528